

***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. After a further search and a thorough examination of the present application and in light of the prior art made of record, claims 2, 6, and 8-11 are found to be in condition for allowance.

***Reasons for Allowance***

2. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The claims are allowable over the prior art of record since the cited reference taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose a method for real-time multi-pass encoding comprising the steps of jointly determining, by a processing device, an optimal target bit allocation scheme for all frames in a look ahead window as a function of a calculated dynamic weighted picture complexity based on an information collected from a first encoder device and an available bit budget for all frames in the look ahead window, encoding, by a second encoder device, each current incoming frames using the target bit allocation for said current incoming frame, continuously updating the look ahead window by removing the current frame encoded by said second encoder device with a next frame from said sequence and repeating said look ahead window calculating through said second encoder device encoding steps, wherein said input buffer implements a correlated processing time delay of sufficient time such that sufficient information may be collected from said first encoder device for deriving said jointly determined optimal target bit allocation by said processing device.

It is noted that the closest prior art of record (Boice et al. US Patent no. 5,978,029) teaches a similar , however, Boice fails to particularly teach or suggest *“continuously updating a look ahead window by removing a current frame encoded by a second encoder device with a next frame from said sequence and repeating said look ahead window calculating through said second encoder device encoding steps, wherein said input buffer implements a correlated processing time delay of sufficient time such that sufficient information may be collected from said first encoder device for deriving a jointly determined optimal target bit allocation by said processing device.”* as specified in the claims.

### **Conclusion**

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submission should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance”.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gims S. Philippe whose telephone number is (571) 272-7336. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (10:30-7:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on (571) 272-7418. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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